GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2783
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2005
INCENTIVE FOR PROCUREMENT
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Conference of State Food Ministers adopted all the resolutions passed by the Conference of State Food Secretaries;

(b) if so, the extent to which these proposals have been implemented by the States so far;

(c) whether the Government has proposed a package of incentives for the State Governments for undertaking procurement and distribution through their designated agencies;

(d) if so, whether the State Government`s have accepted the said proposals; and

(e) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): As per the recommendations of these conferences all the State Governments/UT administrations have been instructed, amongst other things, to ensure that all families at the risk of hunger including migrant labour/displaced persons/homeless population are issued ration entitlement authority slips; priority is given to Cooperatives of women and Ex-servicemen in the matter of allotting Fair Price Shop licenses; priority is given in the allotment of Fair Price Shops to the legal heirs of a Fair Price licensing; publicizing the information about the scale of issue, the price of foodgrains, availability, etc; procurement under decentralized procurement of foodgrains, so as to make the PDS more cost effective as well as to cater to local taste. The implementation of these recommendations by the State Governments/UTs are at various stages.

(c), (d) & (e): Yes, Sir. Under the Decentralised Procurement Scheme, which is already under implementation in various States, the following additional components of costs have already been sanctioned for procurement by State agencies:-

(i) Transportation cost from the procurement centre to the storage point and from the storage point to the milling point;

(ii) Commission to societies at 1% of MSP;

(iii) Payment of cost towards transportation of gunnies from rail heads to procurement centres; and

(iv) Enhancement of milling rate of parboiled rice from Rs. 15 per quintal to Rs. 20 per quintal.